



**THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
29, May, 2012**

The Library Commission convened in a Regular Meeting on Monday, May 29, 2012 at the Austin History Center at 810 Guadalupe St. in Austin, Texas

Chair Wendy Price Todd called the Board Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Wendy Price Todd, Vice Chair Ben Ornelas, Patricia Dabbert, Sharon Kahn, Peggy Pleasant, and Olga Wise

Board Members Absent: None

Staff in Attendance: Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries; Dana McBee, Assistant Director of Libraries; John Gillum, Facilities Process Manager; Victoria Rieger, Financial Manager; Leigh Byford, City of Austin Budget Analyst; Katy Zamesnik, City of Austin Budget Analyst and Toni Grasso, Administrative Manager

1. Citizen Communication:

- a. Maegan Ellis, Operations and Communications Manager for the Literacy Coalition of Central Texas, spoke regarding the Literacy Illuminates campaign between the City of Austin, Travis County and AISD. One out of five adults in Central Texas struggle with reading.
- b. Jeff Cohen, Executive Director of the Austin History Center Association, was in attendance for the budget presentation and thanked the Library Commission for their service.

2. Approval of Minutes from April 23, 2012 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes as written by Commission Member Pleasant and second by Commission Member Dabbert passed on a 6-0-0 vote

Those members voting aye were: Chair Price Todd, Vice Chair Ornelas and Commission Members Dabbert, Kahn, Pleasant and Wise.

3. Presentations: City of Austin Budget Office 2011-2012 Proposed General Fund

Leigh Byford, Budget Analyst and Katy Zamesnik, Budget Analyst

The proposed budget will be presented to City Council on August 1. The City Council is expected to adopt the Budget & Tax Rate September 10-12.

4. Presentations: Austin Public Library 2011-2012 Proposed Budget

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries presented APL's budget with the three requested unmet needs

- 1) 10 essential permanent positions (FTE)
- 2) Dedicated budget funds for temporary employees

3) Additional building and grounds (custodial) positions

Motion by Commission Member Wise and Commission Member Dabbert's second to compose a letter to the City Manager and City Council supporting APL's three unmet needs as listed in APL's budget presentation was passed on a 5-0-1 vote

Those members voting aye were: Vice Chair Ornelas, and Commission Members Dabbert, Kahn, Pleasant and Wise.

Other: Chair Price Todd abstained

(See Backup)

5. Old Business

- a. Bond Development Meeting Briefings
APL's priority listed needs assessments are included in both proposed bond packages
- b. Dia de los Ninos at the Southeast Branch was held April 28, 2012
- c. The APL Annual Awards Luncheon held May 4, 2012 was a great success
- d. The grand opening of the Dell Discovery Lab at the Willie Mae Kirk Branch on Saturday, May 12, was well attended. The date for the renaming has not been set.
- e. The Austin Chronicle Spelling Bee was held May 17, 2012. Over \$400 was raised.

6. New Business

- a. Branch Liaison Briefings
Commission Member Pleasant visited ALW and spoke with RBOM Tom Moran who expressed the wish for a 24 hour book drop and self-check machine. He also expressed safety concerns for staff at night when closing, especially if the staff is all female. On those nights Security assists with closing
- b. Staff Briefings
 - 1) Facilities Update: see Director's Report
 - 2) APL is working with Austin Water Utility to promote the borrowing of digital water meters, similar to the Wattmeter program with Austin Energy
 - 3) The Wrath of Cons, a series of mini conventions with a heavy focus on celebrating several currently hot subgenres of teen literature, starts with YomiCon on June 8, at the Ruiz Branch. The other cons are: RoboCon, robots; FracnfairyCon, fractured fairy tales; and ApocaCon, the zombie apocalypse.
 - 4) Cataloging and Collections is close to completing the process for the public to purchase and donate downloadable books to APL. With a \$75 minimum donation; the donor would be the first to receive the ebook.

7. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Funding sources for APL

Adjourn: Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m. without objection.